a therapeutic bioabsorbable element in a pre-delivery state prior to its delivery to a soft tissue site of a patient;

said bioabsorbable element being of a material which is in a post-delivery state at the target tissue site; and

the therapeutic agent comprising a radiation agent.

93. (Amended) A target tissue localization device comprising:

a bioabsorbable element in a pre-delivery state prior to its delivery to a soft tissue site of a patient;

the bioabsorable element comprising a therapeutic gene therapy agent; and

said bioabsorbable element being of a material which is in a post-delivery state at the target tissue site,.

94. (Amended) A target tissue localization device comprising:

a bioabsorbable element in a pre-delivery state prior to its delivery to a soft tissue site of a patient;

said bioabsorbable element being of a material which is in a post-delivery state at the target tissue site; and

the bioabsorbable element comprising means for subsequently receiving a therapeutic agent.

95. The device according to claim 94 wherein the receiving means comprises a radiation agent.

96. The device according to claim 94 wherein the receiving means comprises a gene therapy agent.

97. The device according to claim 94 wherein the receiving means comprises a chemotherapy agent.

98. The device according to claim 89 further comprising a marker element in contact with the bioabsorbable element.

99. The device according to claim 98 wherein the marker element is a radiopaque marker element located generally centrally within the bioabsorbable element.

100. The device according to claim the 99 wherein the radiopaque marker element is a chosen one of a permanent marker element and a temporary marker element.

101. The device according to claim 89 wherein the bioabsorbable element is remotely visualizable in its post-delivery state by at least one of ultrasound, mammography and MRI.

102. The device according to claim 89 wherein the bioabsorbable element is softer in its post-delivery state than in its pre-delivery state.

103. The device according to claim 89 wherein the bioabsorbable element is physically different in its post-delivery state from its pre-delivery state.

118. A target tissue localization method comprising:

taking tissue from a target tissue site within a patient;

selecting a bioabsorable element that is capable of yielding therapy via delivery of a therapeutic agent to or activating a therapeutic agent within the bioabsorable element;

positioning the bioabsorbable element at the target tissue site;

testing the tissue; and

if the testing indicates a need to do so relocating the target tissue site by finding the bioabsorbable element by palpation of the patient to feel the bioabsorbable element.

119. The method according to claim 118 wherein the positioning step is carried out using said bioabsorbable element and a radiopaque marker.

120. The method according to claim the 119 wherein the radiopaque marker element is a chosen one of a permanent marker element and a temporary marker element.

121. The method according to claim 118 wherein the remotely visualizing step is carried out to by at least one of ultrasound, mammography and MRI.

122. The method according to claim 118 further comprising the step of selecting the bioabsorbable element so that after positioning at the target site, the bioabsorbable element has a hardness of at least about 1.5 times as hard as the surrounding tissue.

123. The method according to claim 118 further comprising the step of effectively preventing blood from contacting the bioabsorbable element until the bioabsorbable element is positioned at the target site.

124. The method according to claim 123 wherein the effectively preventing step is carried out by using a hemostatic bioabsorbable element having a non-hemostatic biodegradable outer layer.

125. The method according the claim 118 wherein the positioning step is carried out using a bioabsorable element with a remotely sensible marker element at a generally central location within the bioabsorbable element.

126. The method according to claim 118 wherein the tissue taking step is carried out at a biopsy site as the target tissue site.

127. A target tissue localization method comprising:

taking tissue from a target tissue site within a patient;

selecting a bioabsorable element that is capable of yielding therapy via delivery of therapy or activating therapy within the bioabsorable element;

positioning the bioabsorbable element at the target tissue site;

testing the tissue; and

if the testing indicates a need to do so relocating the target tissue site by finding the bioabsorbable element by locating inflammation at the target tissue site caused by the bioabsorbable element.

128. The method according to claim 127 wherein the positioning step is carried out using said bioabsorbable element and a radiopaque marker.

129. The method according to claim the 128 wherein the radiopaque marker element is a chosen one of a permanent marker element and a temporary marker element.

130. The method according to claim 127 wherein the remotely visualizing step is carried out to by at least one of ultrasound, mammography and MRI.

131. The method according to claim 127 further comprising the step of selecting the bioabsorbable element so that after positioning at the target site, the bioabsorbable element has a hardness of at least about 1.5 times as hard as the surrounding tissue.

132. The method according to claim 127 further comprising the step of effectively preventing blood from contacting the bioabsorbable element until the bioabsorbable element is positioned at the target site.

133. The method according to claim 132 wherein the effectively preventing step is carried out by using a hemostatic bioabsorbable element having a non-hemostatic biodegradable outer layer.

134. The method according the claim 127 wherein the positioning step is carried out using a bioabsorable element within a remotely sensible marker element at a generally central location within the bioabsorbable element.

135. The method according to claim 127 wherein the tissue taking step is carried out at a biopsy site as the target tissue site.

136. (Amended) A target tissue localization method comprising:

taking tissue from a target tissue site within a patient;

selecting a bioabsorable element that is capable of yielding therapy via delivery of therapy or activating therapy within the bioabsorable element;

positioning the bioabsorbable element at the target tissue site;

the step of selecting the bioabsorbable element being carried out so that after positioning at the target site, the bioabsorbable element has a hardness of at least about 1.5 times as hard as the surrounding tissue;

testing the tissue; and

if the testing indicates a need to do so relocating the target tissue site by finding the bioabsorbable element by remotely visualizing the bioabsorbable element.

137. The method according to claim 136 wherein the positioning step is carried out using said bioabsorbable element and a radiopaque marker.

138. The method according to claim the 137 wherein the radiopaque marker element is a chosen one of a permanent marker element and a temporary marker element.

139. The method according to claim 136 wherein the remotely visualizing step is carried out to by at least one of ultrasound, mammography and MRI.

141. The method according to claim 136 further comprising the step of effectively preventing blood from contacting the bioabsorbable element until the bioabsorbable element is positioned at the target site.

142. The method according to claim 141 wherein the effectively preventing step is carried out using a hemostatic bioabsorbable element having a non-hemostatic biodegradable outer layer.

143. The method according the claim 136 wherein the positioning step is carried out using a bioabsorable element with a remotely sensible marker element at a generally central location within the bioabsorbable element.

144. A target tissue localization method comprising:

taking tissue from a target tissue site within a patient;

selecting a remotely visualizable bioabsorable element; and

positioning the remotely visualizable bioabsorbable element at the target tissue site.

145. The method according to claim 144 wherein the positioning step is carried out using a bioabsorbable element at least a portion of which is radiopaque.

146. The method according to claim 144 wherein the tissue taking step is carried out at a biopsy site as the target tissue site.

147. The method according to claim 144 wherein the positioning step is carried out using remote visualization.

148. A medical treatment method comprising:

taking a tissue sample from a target tissue site within a patient;

positioning a bioabsorbable element at the target tissue site at the time of the taking of the tissue sample;

testing the tissue sample;

if the testing indicates a need to do so, medically treating the target tissue site.

150. The method according to claim 148 wherein the medically treating step comprises delivering a therapeutic agent to the target site.

151. The method according to claim 150 wherein the delivering step is carried out using at least one of:

a chemotherapy agent;

a radiation-emitting element;

thermal energy;

ionization energy;

gene therapy;

vector therapy;

electrical therapy;